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synclinal mountains bounded by bluffs; (2) uniform anticlinal valleys with sharp, well defined limits; (3) monoclinal mountains with steep northwest sides and gentle southeast slopes; (4) monoclinal valleys with ill-defined and irregular northwest limits; (5) flatwoods; (6) irregular valleys with jagged edges; and (7) chert hills and ridges. Each of these subdivisions is described and illustrated by local examples. The geology is introduced by brief reference to the changes due to denudation, after which the faults of the region, to the number of sixteen, are named and described. A general description of the geological formations of the region, ranging from the crystalline Talladega slates to the Lafayette, follows. The minerals, rocks, and other substances of special use and interest, are next discussed, and this is followed in turn by a chapter devoted to the soils, agricultural features, timber, water power, climate, health, and drainage of the region. The remainder of the report is occupied with county details, embracing Etowah, St. Clair, Jefferson, Tuscaloosa, Bibb, Shelby, Talladega, Calhoun, Cherokee, Clayborn, Coosa, and Chilton counties. The report is accompanied by maps and illustrated by excellent half tones.

The economic factor has a very prominent place throughout the report, and will doubtless render it very helpful in developing the important resources of the region. C.

First Report of the Geological Commission of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope. Capetown, 1896.

The Geological Survey of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope was recently organized by the appointment of Professor Corstorphine as geologist, and Arthur W. Rogers and Ernst H. L. Schwarz as assistant geologists. Considering the limitations of time, of means, and of personnel, this first report indicates an active prosecution of the work entrusted to the commission. The report in hand contains brief contributions on the following subjects: "Report on the Laingsburg Coal," by Professor Corstorphine; "Summary of the Work done in the Southwestern Districts," by Rogers; "Survey of the Beaufort West District," by Schwarz; "Summary of the Work done in the Tulbagh Area and Worcester District," by Schwarz; "Report of the Subcommittee on Deep Artesian Well Borings," by Stewart, Corstorphine, and Saunders; "Report of a Preliminary Geological Survey of

the Oudtshoorn and Prince Albert Districts made with a view to the Selection of a Site for a deep Borehole for Artesian Waters," by Corstorphine, and "The Congo Cave," by the same. Geologists will wish this new survey in a far-off land all possible success. C.

North Carolina and Its Resources. Issued by the State Board of Agriculture, Raleigh, 1896.

This is a general work intended to set forth the natural and cultural interests of the state. The subjects of geological interest are the topographic sketches illustrated by half tones, the climatic statistics, a geological map, a list of native minerals, a sketch of the gold, silver, copper, iron, corundum, mica, talc, monazite, marl, phosphate, coal, graphite, kaolin, and clay industries, and of the gems and gem stones of the state. The building stones and road material are also briefly treated. The work is well illustrated with excellent half tones, and is a very creditable book. C.

Bulletin of the Minnesota Academy of Natural Sciences, Vol. IV, No. 1, Part I. *Proceedings and Accompanying Papers 1892 to 1894.* By C. W. HALL, Editor. Minneapolis, 1896.

The papers of geological interest are: "Notes on the Alpine Characteristics of the Minnesota Flora of the Coteau des Prairies," by E. P. Sheldon; "The St. Peter's Sandstone," embracing descriptions of its fauna, including fourteen genera and twenty-eight species, and a discussion of its origin and correlation, by F. W. Sardeson; and "The Fauna of the Magnesian Series with Descriptions of its Fossils," by F. W. Sardeson. The large additions to the fauna of the Magnesian and St. Peter's horizons gives special value to these two papers. C.

Proceedings of the Iowa Academy of Sciences for 1896. Vol. IV, Des Moines, 1897.

The volume contains a portrait of the late Charles Wachsmuth, accompanied by a memorial by Dr. Charles R. Keyes. The papers of geological interest are "The State Quarry Limestone," by Samuel Calvin; "Stages of the Des Moines, or Chief Coal-Bearing Series of